

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraph before the first paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application serial no. 60/431,843 filed December 9, 2002, which is incorporated herein by reference.

The present invention relates generally to communication systems, and more particularly, the present invention has particular application to the field of wireless communication systems and in this aspect relates to a scheduler and related method for efficiently granting polls to upstream and/or sidestream traffic and sending downstream frames.